Philippians – Small Group Study Week 1

Verses for the week: Philippians 1:1-11

Greeting
    1Paul and Timothy, servants*ᵃ* of Christ Jesus,
    To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi, with the overseers*ᵇ* and deacons:*ᶜ*
    2Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
Thanksgiving and Prayer
    3I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, **4**always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, **5**because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. **6**And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. **7**It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace,*ᵈ* both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. **8**For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. **9**And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, **10**so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, **11**filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

Questions:

1. Verse 6 is one of the most quoted verses in the Bible.

What do you think Paul was trying to communicate in this verse to these fellow Christians and Leaders at the Church in Philippi (verse 2 sets forth who he is addressing)?

2. Paul wrote this letter while in prison (see verse 7), yet was amazingly focused on the welfare of these people of Philippi.

Do you see anything in these 11 verses that indicates how or why Paul is able to be so focused on their welfare in spite of his circumstances?

Quote of the week: Human history is the long terrible story of man trying to find something other than God which will make him happy. CS Lewis